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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/799,206	03/12/2004	Cheng-Chung Wang	P-3641.276	7427

7590 05/05/2005

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EXAMINER

SANTOS, ROBERT G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3673

DATE MAILED: 05/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/799,206

Applicant(s)

WANG, CHENG-CHUNG

Examiner

Robert G. Santos

Art Unit

3673

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule-17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1 and 5 are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - 1) In claim 1, line 6: The phrase --at least one-- should be inserted before the term “inlet”.
 - 2) In claim 5, line 3: The phrase --at least one-- should be inserted before the term “electromagnetic”, and the term “switches” should be changed to --switch--.Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 3 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 4,745,647 to Goodwin (note especially Figures 1, 2, 7-11 & 16; column 7, lines 56-62; column 9, lines 63-68; column 10, lines 1-10; column 11, lines 53-68; column 12, lines 1-3; column 13, lines 36-68; column 14; column 15, lines 1-30 & 68; column 16, lines 1-9 & 21-68; column 17, lines 57-68; column 18, lines 1-20; column 20, lines 55-68; column 21, lines 1-16; and column 22, lines 4-10).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 2 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goodwin '647 in view of Ogura '590. Goodwin '647 does not specifically disclose the use of at least one electromagnetic switch to control movement of the valves (146). Ogura '590 provides the basic teaching of an inflating/deflating device comprising electromagnetic switches (9) used to effect movement of a plurality of associated valves (11). The skilled artisan would have found it obvious at the time the invention was made to provide the inflating/deflating device of Goodwin '647 with the use of at least one electromagnetic switch to control movement of the valves in order to provide an alternative conventional means for ensuring proper and efficient operation of the valves as desired.

6. Claims 4 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goodwin '647. Goodwin '647 discloses the use of at least one knob provided to control movement of the valves (146) as opposed to at least one pushbutton as claimed. The skilled artisan would have found it obvious at the time the invention was made to replace the at least one knob of the inflating/deflating device of Goodwin '647 with at least one pushbutton since such a modification would have been generally recognized as a substitution of art-recognized equivalents.

7. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goodwin '647 in view of Ogura '590, and further in view of Wilhoit '647. Goodwin '647 as modified by Ogura '590 does not specifically disclose the use of a master switch provided to control movement of the at least one electromagnetic switch (9). Wilhoit '647 provides the basic teaching of an inflating/deflating device provided with a master switch (74) for controlling the inflation and deflation functions of an inflatable mattress (10). The skilled artisan would have found it obvious at the time the invention was made to provide the inflating/deflating device of Goodwin '647 as modified by Ogura '590 with the use of a master switch provided to control movement of the at least one electromagnetic switch in order to facilitate operation of the at least one electromagnetic switch as desired.

8. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goodwin '647 in view of Kunz et al. '110. Goodwin '647 does not specifically disclose the use of a wireless control mechanism for controlling movement of the valves (146). Kunz et al. '110 provides the basic teaching of an inflatable mattress (1) provided with a wireless control mechanism (as described in column 8, lines 6-11) for activating a plurality of associated valves (9, 11). The skilled artisan would have found it obvious at the time the invention was made to provide the inflating/deflating device of Goodwin '647 with a wireless control mechanism for controlling movement of the valves in order to provide an alternative conventional means for readily ensuring efficient operation of the valves as desired.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Wang '631, Harrison et al. '967, Harrison et al. '219, Oexman et al. '450, Johnson et al. '595, Goodwin '673, Goodwin '413, Goodwin '309 and Goodwin '249.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert G. Santos whose telephone number is (571) 272-7048. The examiner can normally be reached on Tues-Fr and first Mondays, 10:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather C. Shackelford can be reached on (571) 272-7049. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Robert G. Santos
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3673

R.S.
May 2, 2005